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Air Conditioning & REFRIGERATION



NEWS

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ORDERS RECEIVED TO APRIL ON COMMERCIAL UNITS ARE VALID

WASHINGTON, D. C.—An amendment to Order L-38 issued April 14 makes valid all orders for commercial refrigeration and air conditioning systems and parts thereof received prior to April 6, 1943 and bearing a preference rating of A-1-c or higher.

The order as revised March 27 permitted a manufacturer or dealer to deliver on any purchase order for a system of refrigerating and air conditioning machinery and equipment or parts of such system which the WPB authorized on forms PD-830 or PD-831. The April 14 amendment extends permission to deliver such systems or parts on purchase orders which were placed with and accepted by a dealer, producer, or other person prior to April 6, providing such orders bear preference ratings of A-1-c or higher.

Text of the amendment is as follows:

"Authorized order" means any order for the delivery of a system or parts, which the War Production Board has authorized on Form PD-830 or PD-831 pursuant to paragraph (c) of this order. The term shall also include any order for such a system or parts which has been placed with and accepted by a dealer, producer, or other person prior to April 6, 1943, if such order bears a preference rating of A-1-c or higher (or if the acceptance and delivery of such order was specifically authorized or directed by the WPB without any preference rating having been assigned thereto, prior to April 6, 1943); Provided, That the system or parts can be and are produced and delivered in accordance with the provisions of Orders M-9-c and M-126 applicable thereto immediately prior to April 6, 1943."

NELSON DENIES NATIONWIDE PLAY OF 'CONCENTRATION'

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Published reports that the War Production Board is proceeding upon a nationwide plan for concentration of industry were denied last week by Chairman Donald M. Nelson.

The reports, Mr. Nelson said, apparently were based upon two confidential memoranda circulated to the WPB Committee on Concentration of Production, one dated Nov. 19, 1942, and the second Jan. 19, 1943. The list of industries carried in the stories were contained in the 1943 report to this Committee which went out of existence some three months ago, and does not in any sense constitute a list of industries for which WPB is now considering a concentration program.

"The War Production Board has made a continuous study of concentration since its inception. The one inescapable conclusion from that study is that no formula or general plan for the concentration of a great number of industries is possible.

"Each industry poses a particular problem, which is, in turn, closely related to other industries and other problems."

Many Doubtful Points In Revised Industry Orders Are Debated at Chicago 'Wartime' Conference

Survey on Service Manpower Shows Crisis Is Near

CHICAGO—Several hundred refrigeration equipment manufacturers, jobbers, dealers, and servicemen left the Palmer House hotel here last Wednesday night with as clear a picture as it is possible to get of just where the industry stands in relation to the war effort and the availability of those things that are needed to keep the civilian end of the industry in operation.

These men had just attended two days of intensive meetings labeled the "Refrigeration Industry Wartime Conference." This included

meetings of the Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association, the National Refrigeration Supply Jobbers Association, and a joint session on Wednesday morning sponsored by those two organizations plus the Refrigeration Service Engineers Society.

The three outstanding things that came out of the conference might be catalogued as follows:

(1) A lot of questions about the revised P-126 and L-38 orders were answered—but the discussions revealed that there are many additional questions on which interpretations will be necessary.

(2) Heard from Sterling Smith, the Chief of the Refrigeration Section of WPB, of how essential refrigeration really is to the war effort, plus a picture of the difficulties that face an

A complete report on the Refrigeration Industry Wartime Conference will be published in the next issue of the News. This will include the texts of the talks given by Sterling Smith of WPB, Paul Reed, and others, and the reports of the product group committees of Rema.

industry that is trying to keep at least the bare essential part of its civilian business going.

(3) Were warned in a most comprehensive report on the subject yet made—by Paul Reed, service manager for Servel, Inc., and chairman, War Educational Committee of R.S.E.S.—that the refrigeration service manpower problem is the most serious now facing the industry, and that immediate steps will be necessary for a solution.

Mr. Reed brought forth some figures

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(Concluded on Page 2, Column 2)

This is the bulletin issue of the News. More details on the news stories plus special features in next week's full size issue.

Nelson Agrees With Need For Stronger Hand For Civilians

(Concluded from Page 1, Column 2)

"Only such a central agency with an over-all point of view and the complete undivided power over priorities is in a position to make the difficult choices involved in parceling out to competing demands the factors of production."

Following his prepared speech, Nelson was questioned by Senator Maloney of Connecticut, sponsor of the bill, who tried to force concessions from Nelson regarding the neglect of civilian needs.

When Maloney asked if Nelson did not think that some man of authority on civilian needs should be placed within WPB, Nelson shot back that the person already was in charge; that, "I know more about the civilian and his needs than any man in this room." In this connection he referred to his Sears-Roebuck days when, he claimed, he had sold and bought more goods than any man in the country.

In conclusion Nelson said to Maloney, "I agree thoroughly with your objective of delegating a strong and influential representative of civilian needs. Our only difference is as to the methods by which to accomplish this purpose. I think it can be worked out within WPB and that it would be disastrous to create a separate agency such as you propose in this bill."

As to the value of Joseph L. Weiner, present director of OCS, Nelson said Weiner had done a good job.

Many Questions on Revised Orders Arise at Chicago Conference

(Concluded from Page 1, Column 3)

ures taken from a survey of the various R.S.E.S. chapters around the country, and commented that even these figures "do not fully reflect the seriousness of the situation at present," since the survey was made some time ago.

"The figures show that 15% of the service engineers have gone into military service, and 23% have gone into industrial plants and maintenance in military camps and bases, making a total of 38% of the servicemen no longer available for civilian work.

"This is bad enough, but it is not all. Since certain new or factory rebuilt parts or complete assemblies are not available, the service engineer has been forced to spend extra time in repairing them. The survey shows that this activity is taking 30% of his time. So that 30% of the time of the 62% of the men left is spent in work that he did not have to do before the war. Therefore, the 62% available manpower shrinks to the equivalent of 43%."

The discussions of the Orders L-38 and P-126 were such as to clarify certain of the meanings and intents of the order. The following are some of the principal questions advanced about the orders, with the answers that came out of the discussions. The answers are not official interpretations, but where a definite answer is given it can be relied upon as being authentic under the circumstances.

Hand Tools Through CMP?

"Should a service company get hand tools under CMP Regulation 5 (which supplies blanket rulings for maintenance, repair, and operating supplies?)?"

No. Order P-126 is the controlling order in this case. Service men can get tools for emergency service operators or to replace tools lost or broken. The rating for such tools can be applied by servicemen in accordance with the classification of the type of service as specified in the order. Generally this means an AA-4 rating for tools lost or broken, and AA-2X for special needs if the service to be rendered is such as to warrant that rating.

Repair Shops Under CMP?

"Is it true that only manufacturers, and not repair shops, operate under CMP?"

Generally speaking, this is true. However, a repair shop which needs controlled material would apply on CMP-4B for those controlled materials which he may actually "chew up" in his shop operation. This would only apply in a limited number of cases where a shop did extensive reconditioning work. It should be kept in mind that CMP is fundamentally an instrument designed to schedule and assure critical metals to manufacturers so that they may produce products. It is not designed to provide materials for a civilian consumer who needs materials for emergency repair of his equipment.

PD-1A Orders on the Books

"How should authorized orders for refrigeration products on a PD-1A prior to April 6 (effective date of amended order L-38) be treated? Should a manufacturer fill them?"

A new authorization just put into effect makes valid any order bearing an A-1-C or higher rating on the company books of April 6, and the manufacturer can fill such orders. He cannot fill orders received on PD-1A applications after that date, however, since it is required in L-38 that only application for ratings on Form 830 and 831 can be honored.

End Use Symbols

"Are end use symbols still required of purchasing certain metals?"

Brass mills at least are still requiring end use symbols from manufacturer customers because in the transition period from the PRP to the CMP plans an allotment symbol is not quite enough to satisfy the "bookkeeping" requirements of the Copper Branch of WPB, so end use data is still required. However, George Allen of Mueller Brass Co. says the Copper Branch has just set a procedure for operating under CMP and Directive No. 4 to CMP Regulation No. 1 covers the operation in the transition period.

A new series of allotment numbers for Class B products (civilian products including refrigeration) has been established for copper and brass products in the third quarter. One

has been set up for refrigeration products and it will be all that will have to be shown on purchase orders.

Orders for Water Coolers

"It is understood that there may probably be further amendments to L-38 that permit water cooler installations in certain cases where installations are now prohibited. What about orders received for such installations before the amendments come through? Should they be entered on a company's books and held until the amendments come through?"

Best practice, from both the standpoint of compliance and of good bookkeeping practice, is to reject such orders. Naturally, it would be wise to keep such orders on file for a call-up.

Loan of Unit for Breakdown

"What can be done in the case of a complete breakdown of a condensing unit for a frozen food storage plant in which the unit was not repairable on the premises?"

It is permitted under L-38 to loan a new or used system for just such cases where the breakdown of the unit is of the nature that emergency repairs are not possible on the premises. This enables the system to be made operative until the proper rating can be applied and work done to put the original into operation again.

L-38 as Applied to Belts

"Does L-38 apply to belts?"

Yes, if they are belts to be used in commercial refrigeration and air conditioning work.

Rating for Motor Repairs

"Is it necessary to apply a rating for the repair of an electric motor where the motor is brought into the shop?"

Yes, he should apply an AA-4 to such a repair.

Rating for "Freon-12"

"Is it necessary to apply a rating for 'Freon-12' used for repair and maintenance purposes?"

No, it isn't necessary, since "Freon-12" is under allocation by order M-28.

Function of WPB Field Office

"To what extent should the refrigeration man in the field use the local WPB offices?"

It is probably the best policy not to rely too strongly on the verbal interpretations that are received at WPB field offices, since the only interpretations that are official are those passed by the legal division of WPB in Washington. But the field offices can be helpful in issuing emergency ratings quickly, where a breakdown in equipment may be such as to endanger public health or safety.

All Parts Restricted to AA-4?

"L-38 would seem to restrict the sale of commercial refrigeration parts to a user who can apply a AA-4 rating. Holders of the P-126 emergency service license are not considered as dealers and therefore must apply a AA-4 rating and the refrigeration supply jobber must demand a priority rating from them. A dealer who does not operate under the P-126 license may be sold the same parts without a rating, but in turn he may not resell these parts unless he in turn be extended a AA-4 rating."

While the restrictions of the order seem to permit the free flow of material up to the user level, the actual effect of the order is to freeze the sale of all commercial parts to a AA-4 level. Is this correct?"

The answer to this question involves a major point of interpretation of the effect of L-38 on refrigeration parts distribution that will need an official statement of interpretation. For the time being it would seem to be the safest policy to apply a rating to all parts transactions.

Compressor Body a Part?

"Is the compressor body—the 'pump'—considered a refrigeration part under Orders P-126 and L-38?"

Yes, the compressor body only, but not the entire condensing unit, is considered as a part.

Part-time Workers and P-126

"In scattered areas of the Dakotas and the Northwest there are many men who do refrigeration service work on a part-time basis only. It is

the only way service work can be done in these territories. Will the Refrigeration Section of WPB look with favor upon their application for licensing as an emergency service agency under P-126?"

There is every reason to believe that such applications would be passed upon favorably by WPB.

Factory Re-building

"Is it necessary to have a rating for factory re-building of condensing units?"

Each case would probably be governed by the circumstances surrounding it, and an official interpretation should be obtained from the WPB in Washington.

Comfort Cooling Repairs

"Under (b) (1) (ii) or L-38 the delivery of new or used parts for a 'comfort cooling' system is restricted on a value basis—\$25 for a system of a certain size, etc. But there is apparently no 'time restriction' on such limitation. Therefore, what is to prevent a serviceman from buying \$25 of 'Freon' or some other part every day for two weeks until he could accomplish a repair job of any magnitude on a comfort cooling system?"

The matter here would seem to be one of the intent or spirit of the order, as well as the letter of the order. A serviceman who did such a thing would seem to be violating the intent of the order.

'Freon' Without Priorities?

"Some jobbers handling 'Freon-12' have been selling this refrigerant under Classification II of Order M-28 without a formal application to purchasers who make an affidavit that they do not use more than 50 lbs. of such refrigerant in a month. Is this a correct procedure?"

There doesn't seem to be anything that has come from WPB authorizing such procedure. The regulation seems to state that application on form PD-160 is required for any amount of "Freon-12."

Purchase of Old Unit

"Can a dealer or serviceman buy an old compressor from a user and re-build it?"

If the unit is under 3-hp. capacity it can be bought without restriction. If the dealer or serviceman desires parts to recondition it, he should apply for them on Form 831.

Home Frozen Food Unit

"What about storage cabinets holding temperatures of -15° F. or less that are used in a home to store food. Can the P-126 rating covering commercial refrigeration emergency service repairs be applied to such units?"

Yes, if 75% of the storage space is devoted to storage of foods at such temperatures. However, a complete high or low side replacement cannot be done for such units.

If Coil Is Beyond Repair

"What if a coil (low side) is beyond repair?"

The WPB apparently does not recognize a low side as being beyond repair. It must be patched up as best as possible.

Carrier Wins a Third Renewal of 'E' Award

SYRACUSE, N. Y.—Carrier Corp. has been re-awarded the Army-Navy "E" for excellence in production for the third time since the original award in September of 1941. This means that a third star is to be added to the Army-Navy "E" flags which fly over the Carrier plant, which was one of the first 24 concerns in the country to receive this recognition. The notice was received in a letter to Cloud Wampler, president, from Admiral C. C. Bloch.

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Quotas Announced For 26 Icebox Manufacturers In Second Quarter

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Quotas for 26 manufacturers of ice boxes for the second quarter of this year total 210,000 for general consumption, WPB announced last week.

In addition, the order provides that these manufacturers may fill orders bearing preference ratings of AA-5 or higher in excess of their quotas.

Ice boxes are produced in two sizes under L-7-c. One is of about 50-pound ice capacity with 3½ cubic feet of food space, the other of about 75-pound ice capacity with five cubic feet of storage.

No restrictions have been imposed on retail sales. The general public may purchase ice boxes through usual trade sources.

Eighteen of the 19 companies in production during the first quarter of 1943 applied for production quotas.

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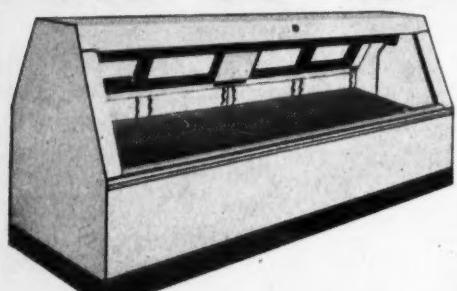
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Kelvinator Booklet Sheds Light on the Industry's Service Manpower Problem

DETROIT—"Refrigeration Service Manpower Problems and Suggested Procedure for Meeting Them," the latest Nash-Kelvinator Corp. booklet published for the benefit of refrigeration dealers, interprets for them regulations set up by the government to handle the various problems arising out of the current manpower shortage, C. T. Lawson, general sales manager, announces.

Material in the book is intended to give retail dealers a clear understanding of government regulations covering selective service, wages, price ceilings for labor charges, and other phases of manpower.

Based upon the knowledge that the government has recognized refrigeration service as essential to the war effort, Kelvinator's book includes sections on what the U. S. Employment Service can do to help supply adequate service manpower; how to

make replacements with persons not subject to the draft; how to provide draft boards with the kind of information they need; how to appeal draft classifications; how the III-B classification works; and how men over 38 can apply for release from the armed services.

Wage increases are covered in the book by a discussion of the Wage Stabilization Law and how it applies to the appliance dealer.

Dealers are advised in the manpower manual on the proper method to use in seeking adjustments on service charges and allied claims in relation to the maximum price regulations.

Lawson states that the book is being mailed free to refrigeration retailers throughout the industry in order to help them cope with the complex manpower situation involved in wartime refrigeration service.

Some Steel To Go For Civilian Use

WASHINGTON, D. C.—WPB plans to release 3,000 tons of "frozen" light gauge steel for limited manufacture of civilian products containing metal, it is reported.

"These frozen inventories are being released because they consist only of a small tonnage of light gauge steel, not satisfactorily usable in war production or for scrap purposes," WPB said.

Limiting production to the manufacture of 20 items, the release will permit manufacturers to use their inventories of partially or wholly fabricated steel parts. One item to be produced not for civilian use will be luggage for the Army and Navy. The other items are such non-essentials as hair clamps, pins, fasteners.

Realizing that small manufacturers have been handicapped by not being able to dispose of this type of steel was one reason WPB gave.

Products in which processed steel may be used include: Millinery wire, beds (except spring frames), cold and warm air registers, awning frames, frames for bags, purses and pocketbooks, linoleum binding, brushes, buckles for shoes, clothing, buttons for clothing, clothing trim and dress ornaments, non-electric hair curlers, floor covering trim, hat frames, mechanical book bindings, and screen frames.

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RATES for all other classifications, 10¢ per word, minimum charge, \$5.00 per insertion. Three consecutive insertions, 25¢ per word, minimum charge, \$12.50.

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How a Dealer Obtains and Sells New Household Refrigerators

Recent Release Order Requires Use of New Forms

Ellis Music Co.
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March 29, 1943

Editor:

We have been unable to obtain sufficient information or the proper forms to be used in filing our application for priority rating to enable us to purchase new refrigerators. If you can furnish us with this information or the forms or can advise us where we may obtain same, we will appreciate it greatly.

Mrs. Homer A. Ellis

Answer: All transactions in new household refrigerators are governed by the War Production Board Supplementary Limitation Order L-5-d, which was published in the April 5, 1943 issue of AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION NEWS.

If you are interested in obtaining new refrigerators as a dealer for sale to your customers, the Order states in paragraph (b) that "when ever a manufacturer or distributor is authorized to make "unlimited transfer" (free release) of new domestic mechanical refrigerators, such transfer shall be made as far as is practical through his normal distributive outlets on a basis proportionate to his distribution of new mechanical refrigerators to them during the year of 1941, regardless of any previous commitments or contracts."

This means that you as a dealer, would be entitled to receive from your distributor, a share of whatever allotment your distributor is given for free release, the share to be based on your purchases from this distributor in the year 1941.

It is also provided under paragraph (b) (3) that any transfer of a new domestic mechanical refrigerator to an ultimate consumer (customer) from such released stocks, may be made only if the buyer includes a purchaser's certificate on War Pro-

duction Board Form PD-833. On this form the purchaser must certify as follows:

"I hereby certify that the Domestic Mechanical Refrigerator being transferred is required by me in my place of residence (or for the use of my tenant). I have no other domestic mechanical refrigerator nor do I have available any other refrigeration equipment which I can use for myself (or for my tenant). This refrigerator will be installed and used at the following address:"

If you have a customer who has a special need for a refrigerator and is unable to purchase one from a free or released inventory as described above, that customer may still obtain a refrigerator, providing his need is one which is recognized as essential by the War Production Board.

Briefly, essential needs include a refrigerator for a new home that was constructed under priority assistance in a defense area, or is in the interests of civilian health, which would include installation in a hospital, school, institution, Red Cross establishment, or in a doctor's office for the keeping of serums.

A customer having such an essential need may apply to the War Production Board on form PD-427 which form is available from your nearest War Production Board Office.

If the application is approved, the purchaser will receive a certificate of transfer on PD-428 signed by a War Production Board official. This certificate when presented to a dealer enables that dealer to obtain a refrigerator from the frozen stocks of his distributor or manufacturer by merely endorsing his purchase order as instructed in paragraph (c) (1).

We trust that this discussion of the principal points in the Order that affect you will prove helpful. Your source of supply for refrigerators should be able to assist you further.

N.E.W.A. To Meet In Buffalo May 24-26

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Certificates of War Necessity and "T" ration gasoline coupons may not be transferred along with titles to trucks or other commercial vehicles, the Office of Defense Transportation stated today. The action directly violates General Order ODT 21, the ODT pointed out, and may be punished by suspension or revocation of Certificates.

New operators receiving a motor vehicle through transfer must file an application for CWN immediately upon the transfer. Operators who already hold Certificates must apply for revised Certificates, using Form CWN-5-S if a single unit operator or Form D-F if a fleet operator. Failure to file such applications may also result in suspension of the operator's OWN, the ODT said.

Single unit operators (operators of one or two vehicles) must return Certificates to their ODT District Offices and must surrender unused "T" coupons to their local War Price and Rationing Boards upon transfer. Fleet operators must devise the nearest ODT District Office of their action and return the appropriate Sub-Certificate.

Operators changing their area of operation or substantially changing the nature of their business must inform their local ODT District Office of such changes. Changes of address should also be reported promptly. Failure to comply with these rules, ODT stated, may result in reduction of gasoline allotments or possible suspension of Certificates.

Powlison Vice President Of Armstrong Cork Co.

DETROIT—Technical and descriptive Bulletin No. F-43 covering the complete "Frostrode" process of refrigerated welding has just been released by Frostrode Products here.

Described in the 4-page folder are design and operating features of the "Frostrode" system as a whole, and also of the various components of the system.

Charts of increased production obtained by users of the process in welding typical gauges of aluminum alloy are shown.

Adequate Servicing Of Fans Assured

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Users of portable electric fans are assured of the maintenance of such equipment, insofar as service depends upon the supply of repair and replacement parts, through provisions of General Limitation Order No. L-176 (Domestic and Commercial Electric Fans) as being held April 6.

Manufacturing of certain repair and replacement parts on a limited basis is provided for in the revised order, easing previous restrictions.

Production of electric fans has been limited to marine types for shipboard use since Sept. 5, 1942. At the same time, sales of all fans in manufacturers' hands were prohibited except upon specific authorization of the War Production Board.

In lieu of a supply of new fans, L-176 recognizes the essentiality of maintaining existing equipment. In addition to the permitted manufacture of fan blades and electric motors, the order now also permits the use of copper and copper base alloys in the production of parts which conduct electric current. These same metals may also be used in bearings, if no other material is practicable. The manufacturer must restrict production of all parts so that his inventory does not exceed the total number of parts of each type that he had sold during the preceding six months.

Previously, only steel parts could be manufactured, prior to yesterday's revisions, production of those parts containing copper or copper base

alloys was prohibited except on individual repair jobs calling for not more than two pounds of such metals.

No manufacturer or distributor may deliver a new part unless a similar used part is given to him in exchange, or unless the used part is being held by the distributor or dealer.

In effect, the person who has his fan repaired does so on an exchange basis. The dealer accepts the used part, which he has replaced with a new one in the repair job, and holds it at the disposition of his distributor or manufacturer. If used parts are not called in within 60 days, the holder must dispose of them through regular scrap channels.

All fans frozen in manufacturers' inventories are subject to release only through specific WPB authorization. This authorization is generally granted for civilian or military hospital use or for highly essential industrial requirements. Because of the limited supply, no authorization can be granted for transfer of fans to be used for the ventilation of homes or offices.

Definition of "Electric Fan" in L-176 has been expanded to include the wall type propeller fan having a blade diameter of less than 17 inches, and any ceiling fan.

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